

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2 and 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 6-11, and add Claims 12-14 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means connectible to external devices adapted to store image data and operated by power supplied from a ~~first-connected external device~~; the printing apparatus ~~adapted to print images stored in the external devices~~, the printing apparatus comprising:

connection detection means for detecting a connection state of the external devices to the ~~respectively~~ plurality of interface means;

determining means for determining whether or not a total amount of power that the plurality of external devices ~~demands~~ demands exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that a plurality of external devices are connected ~~two or more of the external devices are in the connection state~~; and

selection means for selecting an ~~one of the~~ one of the external device ~~devices~~ devices to be supplied with power according to an operating state of a ~~first-connected a previously-connected~~ first-connected a previously-connected external device among the external devices when the determining means

determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying,

wherein after the previously-connected external device enters an idle state,  
the selection means stops power supply to the previously-connected external device and  
starts power supply to a newly-connected external device among the external devices.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 2  
1, wherein the selection means, after starting power supply to ~~a later-connected the newly-connected~~ external device, re-starts power supply to ~~a first-connected the previously-connected~~ external device when ~~such later-connected the newly-connected~~ external device enters a disconnected state.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection means comprises user selection means for allowing a user to select a usable external device.

6. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of interface means comprises a plurality of interfaces of different specifications.

7. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of the interface means comprises a memory card interface.

8. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of the interface means comprises a USB interface.

9. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of the interface means comprises an IEEE 1394 interface.

10. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means adapted to supply power to external devices, the printing apparatus adapted to print images stored in the external devices, the printing apparatus comprising:

connection detection means for detecting a connection state of the external devices to the respectively plurality of interface means;

determining means for determining whether or not a total amount of power that the plurality of external devices demands demand exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that a plurality of external devices are connected two or more of the external devices are in the connection state; and

selection means for selecting one of the an external device devices to be supplied with power according to an operating state of a first-connected previously-connected external device among the external devices when the determining means determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying,

wherein after the previously-connected external device enters an idle state, the selection means stops power supply to the previously-connected external device and starts power supply to a newly-connected external device among the external devices.

11. (Currently Amended) A power supply control method in a printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means connectible to external devices adapted to store image data and operated by power supplied from the printing apparatus, a first-connected external device, the printing apparatus adapted to print images stored in the external devices; the method comprising the steps of:

detecting a connection state of the external devices to the ~~respectively~~ plurality of interface means;

determining whether or not a total amount of power that the plurality of external devices ~~demands~~ demand exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that a plurality two or more of the external devices are connected in the connection state; and

selecting one of the an external device devices to be supplied with power according to an operating state of a first-connected previously-connected external device among the external devices when the determining means step determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying,

wherein after the previously-connected external device enters an idle state,  
the selecting step stops power supply to the previously-connected external device and starts  
power supply to a newly-connected external device among the external devices.

12. (New) A printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means connectible to external devices adapted to store image data and operated by power supplied from the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting a connection state of the external devices to the plurality of interface means;

determining means for determining whether or not a total amount of power that the external devices demand exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that two or more of the external devices are in the connection state; and

selection means for selecting one of the external devices to be supplied with power according to an operating state of a previously-connected external device among the external devices when the determining means determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying,

wherein after the power supply to the previously-connected external device is stopped, the selection means starts power supply to a newly-connected external device among the external devices.

13. (New) A printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means connectible to external devices adapted to store image data and operated by power supplied from the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting a connection state of the external devices to the plurality of interface means;

determining means for determining whether or not a total amount of power that the external devices demand exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that two or more of the external devices are in the connection state; and

notice means for notifying that the operation of a previously-connected external device among the external devices stops when the determining means determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying.

14. (New) A printing apparatus provided with a plurality of interface means connectible to external devices adapted to store image data and operated by power supplied from the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting a connection state of the external devices to the plurality of interface means;

determining means for determining whether or not a total amount of power that the external devices demand exceeds an amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying when the detection means detects that two or more of the external devices are in the connection state; and

notice means for notifying that a newly-connected external device among the external devices cannot be used during operation of a previously-connected external device among the external devices, when the determining means determines that the total amount of power required exceeds the amount of power that the printing apparatus is capable of supplying.